



Attorney Docket No. 09792909-5084

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Eiji Nakashio et al.

Application No. 09/897,236

Filed: July 2, 2001

For: A MAGNETIC TUNNEL EFFECT
TYPE MAGNETIC HEAD HAVING A
MAGNETIC TUNNEL JUNCTION
ELEMENT SANDWICHED WITH
CONDUCTIVE GAP LAYERS
BETWEEN A PAIR OF MAGNETIC
SHIELDING LAYERS

) Group Art Unit: 2653
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) Examiner: Allen J. Heinz
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) I hereby certify that this document is being deposited
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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Technology Center 2600

RESPONSE TO FEBRUARY 9, 2004 OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed February 9, 2004.

Applicants respectfully request amendment of the patent application, and reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims.